

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, AFIN, IAEA

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON THE TARGET FOR VOLUNTARY
CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1979

1. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS
CONVENED INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING FEBRUARY 23
ON THE TARGET FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
GENERAL FUND FOR 1979. REPRESENTATIVES OF THIRTEEN
MEMBER STATES ON THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS, PLUS
SWEDEN PARTICIPATED.

2. DISCUSSION CENTERED ON THE DESIRABILITY OF
FINDING OBJECTIVE CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING THE
TARGET TO BE RECOMMENDED TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.
THE LDC REPS LED BY AMBASSADOR SIRRY OF EGYPT AND
AMBASSADOR SATTAR OF PAKISTAN PROPOSED INFLATION
AND EXCHANGE RATE VARIATION AS THE PRINCIPAL
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CRITERIA FOR A NO-GROWTH TARGET. IN A WORKING PAPER
FOR THESE CONSULTATIONS PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT
AT THE DIRECTION OF CHAIRMAN KHOR APPLICATION OF
THESE CRITERIA INDICATED A NO REAL GROWTH TARGET
OF \$7,620,000. PROPOSED ADDITION OF REAL GROWTH
FACTORS OF 5.4 PERCENT AND 12.6 PERCENT PRODUCED
TARGETS OF \$8,000,000 AND \$8,500,000 RESPECTIVELY.

3. AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH PUT FORWARD BY REP OF CANADA WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WAS NEGOTIATION OF A TARGET TAKING MANY FACTORS INTO ACCOUNT, BUT WITHOUT QUANTIFICATION OF THOSE FACTORS. THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL WAS THAT THE FACTORS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BE STATED IN PRESENTING THE PROPOSED TARGET TO FINANCE MINISTRIES. AMONG THE FACTORS CONTEMPLATED WERE INFLATION, EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATION, PROPORTION OF PREVIOUS TARGETS REALIZED BOTH AS REGARDS FUNDS AND NUMBERS OF CONTRIBUTORS, CAPACITY OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO PAY, CAPACITY OF THE IAEA TO DELIVER AND TRENDS OF PRIOR YEARS.

4. IN THE END THE DISCUSSION WAS INCONCLUSIVE AND THE FIGURES SUGGESTED BY THE FRG REP (\$7,500,000) AND THE REP OF PAKISTAN (\$9,500,000) PROBABLY FORM THE BOUNDARIES WITHIN WHICH THE TARGET WILL ULTIMATELY BE NEGOTIATED. LABOWITZ

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